CLAIMS:

1. A method for controlling the growth and/or development of a cancer in an animal or avian species said method comprising administering to said animal or avian species an effective amount of a phospholipase inhibitor or a functional derivative or homologue thereof.

2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the phospholipase inhibitor or derivative or homologue reduces the levels and/or activities of a phospholipase to an extent to reduce the growth and/or development of cancer cells.

3. A method according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the growth and/or development of cancer is in an animal.

4. A method according to claim 3 wherein the animal is a human.

5. A method according to claim 1 wherein the phospholipase inhibitor reduces the volume of cancer in the animal or avian species.

6. A method according to claim 1 wherein the phospholipase inhibitor inhibits more than one type of phospholipase type A_2 (PLA_2).

7. A method according to claim 6 wherein the PLA_2 inhibitor is derived from *Notechis scutatus* or *Notechis ater*.

8. A method according to claim 7 wherein the PLA_2 inhibitor comprises an amino acid sequence substantially set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 or any one of SEQ ID NOs:4 to 11 or 12 to 33.

9. A method according to claim 6 wherein the PLA_2 inhibitor comprises an amino

acid sequence substantially set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:3.

10. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein the phospholipase inhibitor inhibits secretory PLA_2 which in turn reduces expression of COX2 thereby reducing catalytic conversion of arachidonic acid to prostaglandin.

11. A biological composition useful for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of cancer in a target animal or bird such as a human, primate, livestock animal or companion animal said composition comprising a PLA_2 inhibitor such as but not limited to the PLA_2 defined by any one of amino acids sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 1 to 11 or 12 to 33 or a derivative, homologue, analogue or functional equivalent thereof.

12. A method for controlling the growth and/or development of a cancer in an animal or avian species said method comprising administering to said animal or avian species an effective amount of a PLA_2 inhibitor having an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in any one or more of SEQ ID NOs: 1 to 11 or 12 to 33 or an amino acid sequence having at least 60% identity to any one or more of SEQ ID NOs: 1 to 11 or 12 to 33 or a functional derivative or homologue thereof which PLA_2 inhibitor or derivative or homologue reduces the level or activity of secretory PLA_2 thereby reducing expression of a genetic sequence encoding a cycloxygenase or reducing cycloxygenase activity.

13. A biological composition useful for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of cancer in a target animal or bird such as a human, primate, livestock animal or companion animal said composition comprising a PLA_2 inhibitor such as but not limited to the PLA_2 defined by any one of amino acids sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 1 to 11 or 12 to 33 or a derivative, homologue, analogue or functional equivalent thereof.